Does Our Lady Think, Too, That There Is LITTLE TIME?

by LESTER M. DOOLEY, S.V.D.

Note the speed with which the message of Our Lady of Lipa has spread through the world.

Twenty-five years had passed before the message of Fatima became fully operative. Yet, within exactly two months and twenty-four days, that of Lipa was approved by Bishop Verzosa, the Ordinary of Lipa.

Why?

The Reason

May we not say that in this, our atomic age, Mary, our greatest advocate before the throne of God, views with motherly alarm the fearful destructive power of the atom in the hands of irresponsible man? Like us, but with far clearer vision and greater realization, she knows Russia's atomic possibilities. She sees the mountain of sin mounting ever higher and provoking the wrath of a just God whose creatures outrage and defy Him.

Spoke in English

Of paramount importance is the statement of Our Lady, "What I have asked here at Lipa is exactly what I asked at Fatima."

It is noteworthy likewise for us here in America, that Our Lady, for the first time in the history of her apparitions, spoke in English. Consider the long and eventful years of our political associations with the Philippines. Is not this message then intended as a directive for us? Spoken in our language, surely it includes us most specifically in its implications.

With a holy impatience as becomes a mother who sees danger in delay, Mary prompted immediate action at Lipa. Since a twenty-five year period like that of Fatima's conquest might be disastrous, she dispensed with the slow process of investigation and by her miraculous shower gave decisive evidence and ultimate sanction. Surely, it was not without reason that Mary expedited matters so drastically.

Marian Action — Now

It would seem as though she is trying to impress upon us that it is already the eleventh hour. We are in a valley of decision. The enemy is working and racing against time. By our prayers, rosaries, penances and mortifications we must push forward the clock to the anticipated hour when Her Immaculate Heart will triumph, when Russia will be converted, and a new era, an era of peace will be granted mankind.

Such is Mary's summons to all. Across the wide expanse of a scientific-minded world, with all controls open and with every switch at its highest peak of efficiency, she sends her message of hope, and announces to all listening ports the urgency of the hour as she says, "*These things may now be revealed. Tell this to the people.*" (Words of Lipa vision).

Two Reactions

To this definite ultimatum two reactions are possible: One, an indifferent, lackadaisical boredom which will result in the raining down of bombs to obliterate our civilization and destroy us utterly; the other, an animated, positive, spiritual up-and-doing attitude, a Christian collaboration with Heaven's Queen and Mother, which will result in salvation of one's soul, and the preservation of the world and its civilization before God abandons us to our own folly and destitution.

Needless to say, each of us would choose to belong to the latter of these groups, and unless pride has dulled our spiritual and intellectual sensibilities, of necessity, we do find ourselves here.

It is the Marian age. It is the hour for Marian action. It is a Marian duty to ful-

fill the message of Lipa (and of Fatima). Do something then, for the avenging hand of God descends upon us and the days come of which we must say, "They please me not!" Join the ranks of those who will respond to our dear Mother's pleading words, "Tell this to the people!"

To action then, mighty, selfless, wholehearted Marian action—and now! "It is now later than you think." Tomorrow may be too late.

What Should You Do?

We are spoiled as it were, by the movies. We sit through a captivating scene, enjoy the plot, applaud the acting, react to the sparkling conversation. We appreciate the film! In reading of Fatima and of Lipa, we can easily fall prey to the same sense reactions. Hence, we must pray *for the vivid realization* that **this is not just an exciting drama.**

Ours must be the firm faith, the keen realization of Simeon proclaiming, "This Child is set for the rise and fall of many."...of Peter pronouncing his profession of faith, "Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God!"...of Longinus, announcing his conviction on Calvary, "Truly, this was the Son of God!"

Kill Off Sin

We must exterminate the one real and only enemy of our souls, sin and its viciousness. The disorder and disturbance resultant from sin are the very elements upon which godlessness and Communism thrive. Against such must be pitted peace, "the tranquillity of order," virtue, prayer, reparation, a return to God,...in a word, the Fatima formula proclaimed by the Blue Army. Only such will appease the wrath of God and cooperate with Mary's stated conditions of peace: *"If men return to God and do penance, Russia will be converted and there will be peace."*

We must acknowledge the fact that God may be using Russia as a scourge for the winful ways of the world. Continued fornication, adultery, birth-control, desecration of Sunday, pursuance of materialistic philosophy, secularism, neglect of prayer and the Sacraments... these are hardly signs of a return to God.

Hearken to Mary

The cataclysm of World War II, which in the words of Our Holy Father "need not to have been," should have proved to us the potency of Mary's prophecy:

"If my requests are not heard within the pontificate of Pope Pius XI, a new and more terrible war will begin; the faithful will become martyrs, the Holy Father will suffer much; atheistic Russia will spread its errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecutions against the Church; whole nations will be destroyed.

How patient has Our Lady been! Many there were indeed who thought that Fatima with its solar prodigy would be Her last warning to us. But again She has come to Lipa asking exactly what She asked at Fatima...prayer, penance, reparation. By refusing or even hesitating to follow her injunctions, are we not sinning against the Light?

"IF"

Within our grasp are vital possibilities. We could promote world peace almost instantly *"if"* we submitted ourselves to Mary's better judgment. We could thereby effectively sheath the atom bomb as a fearsome weapon of warfare. We could bring about the conversion of Russia and that triumphant era of devotion promised by Our Lady. All these things would come to pass she said, "if" her requests were granted.

Our Obligation

The winning of the peace then is all so simple and yet it involves a fearful responsibility. A word of explanation:

In deference to atheistic Russia, the U N O perpetrated within its walls a willful act of insult against the dread majesty of God. By its refusal to permit prayer at its sessions it has steeped itself in an abyss of darkness. The results are as we would expect. Since there is no light of heaven being invoked, there can be no blessing or sanction upon such a gathering. From its deliberations can come no lasting results. Those who follow its sessions cannot but note a resemblance between it and the tower Babel.

The world's deep-seated problems are so tragic and its magnetic needle is veering so far from its true center which is God, because of the tremendous force of evil. Its problems are spiritual and can be remedied therefore only by a spiritual antidote. This we Catholics must provide, and Our Lady at Fatima and at Lipa has clearly indicated the method.

So Much For So Little

We are an intelligent nation. Since Fatima's requests are conditional, let us be quick to evaluate aright the issue at stake and to take measures accordingly. We must rouse ourselves from our lethargy and consider: World peace and the assurance of our souls' salvation, or the atomic bomb and destruction that is untellable, annihilation that is final.

Have you perhaps been wrong? The means are so simple; the returns so promising.

What should I do? What must I do? What will I do? Simply this:

Recite the Rosary daily.

Be faithful to the duties of your particular state in life. (This is penance, remember.)

Consecrate yourself to Mary.

Make reparation to Her Immaculate Heart by special devotion each Saturday, especially the five First Saturdays.

Wear Her Scapular constantly.

We must all do our utmost to obtain pledges for this program. We must labor with every resource at our command to swell the numbers of those who will fulfill these simple requests of Our Lady and join her *Blue Army* against the red hordes of godlessness.

Only in this way will you be filling the quota necessary for the conversion of Russia. Only thus will you be appeasing the wrath of God and hastening the day of triumph for the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The editors of SOUL were very much struck by Father Lester Dooley's analysis of the great speed with which the message of Lipa has swept the world.

It is indeed remarkable that Lipa had episcopal approbation in two years...when we consider the great amount of time which is ordinarily taken by the Church in such extraordinary events. It is perhaps as Father Dooley says: Our Lady, too, WISHES TO STRESS THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE TIME for Her children to join with her in saving the world from the most destructive war of history.

We have long known Father Dooley, who is author of several books including *Fatima at the Peace Table*, *God's Guests of Tomorrow*, and others. We have therefore asked him to write more fully on the comparison between Fatima and Lipa and his article will be published in a future issue.

Pictures from Phillipines

Meanwhile we wrote to Father Isaias X. Edralin, a Jesuit in the Phillipine Islands who was perhaps the first one to send news of Lipa to American newspapers. We asked him for the latest information and for pictures, both of which he sent to us by airmail in time for this issue. He said that nothing new is being published at the moment because both the Bishop and the Lipa Carmel are now awaiting word from Rome concerning the events which are alleged to be taking place there now.

We think many of our readers will be surprised to see the picture of the Basilica (sent by Father Edralin) which has been built at the Lipa Carmel in just this short time since the apparitions. Its sudden majesty sprouting beside the long ignored Carmel wall highlights Father Dooley's words: "At Lipa she has dispensed with the slow process of investigation because the usual twenty-five year delay might be disastrous..."

Make 1950 a real HOLY YEAR. Send SOUL to all your friends!

What I Saw At Lipa

With My Own Eyes

by Madame Blanche Cortes

On January 6th, 1949, a very dear friend of mine...Mrs. Joseph de Leon, was actually *in* one of the "petal showers" of Lipa.

She had gone to Lipa with seven others, and all witnessed a shower of white petals...which fell from the sky on them and about them.

The following week my friend had told me of this and, on January 19th, we both went to Lipa, together with three other friends. We left home about 4:30 in the afternoon and arrived at the Carmel in Lipa two hours later. Although we had missed it, *there had been a shower of petals earlier that day and the excitement of the crowd was tremendous.* One could not help but be deeply moved.

On January 20th, there was another shower. And that evening, as the outsisters were cleaning the chapel they found three whole roses...pink, yellow and purple...at the foot of the statue of Saint Therese of Lisieux at the end of the chapel.

What I Saw

I returned to Lipa on February 11th... and this time, I saw the shower with my own eyes.

It was about five o'clock in the evening. One petal was floating in the air, near an open-air altar, in a direction opposite to the wind! As it passed over my head, I tried to catch it but it was a few inches out of reach. It floated behind me and landed on the ground about two yards away. Another petal floated over my shoulder.

At seven o'clock, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed and the priest turned to speak to the people. (I think there were about one thousand).

Another Wonder

A commotion was suddenly heard near Our Lady. It was so audible that, being disturbed, the priest reminded the people to be more respectful before the Blessed Sacrament as Our Lord is more important than the Blessed Mother and Our Lady would be sad at their behavior. What she desires, he said, is more prayer and more penance.

At that moment, *the head of the statue moved* **up and down** (in the traditional sign of affirmation) *three times, and the gold rosary beads in her hand started to move bead by bead.*

Excitement was such that for the moment the priest could not continue with Benediction. People fell in front of the statue to their knees, praying and crying.

At various intervals on this day (February 11th, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes) showers of petals took place outside among the people and the statue of Our Lady moved at least three other times. The hands moved to a different position, the head moved, and the rosary beads moved.

Tears Flow

On several other occasions...although I never saw it happen myself...it is said that tears have been seen flowing from the eyes of the statue. This is verified by the Carmelite nuns. On another occasion a rose petal was seen between the fingers of the statue and at the same moment that the hand turned, the petal fell into the palm of the hand of the statue.

Perhaps I should have mentioned that these events were particularly extraordinary because the statue is enclosed, under glass, at all times.

When the petal was seen to fall from the fingers to the palm of the hand, the Mother Prioress of the Carmel was told of it and I am informed that at first neither she nor the nuns thought the story accurate. But when the Prioress investigated, the hand of the statue had obviously changed position and the rose petal was really there. The Prioress herself took it from the palm.

I myself have seen and actually held one of these "petals from Heaven."

Never Part of Rose

They are so constructed that they were never really part of a rose, yet they are as fresh today as when they fell. Many extraordinary cures are said to have taken place because of them. One of the best known and most discussed cures was that of a peasant woman from the interior who had been crippled since she was a tiny infant. She came to Lipa and was a pitiful sight moving up to the Shrine in twisted torture...on all four. At the Shrine, before many people, she was instantly cured. She walked away, radiantly happy and unable to believe her fortune, on her feet...restored and normal in every visible way.

Leaving for America

On December 8th, 1949, I spent most of the day at the Shrine of Our Lady. When I first arrived, I told my little girl to pray and bid Our Lady goodbye as we would soon be leaving for America and would not see her for awhile. While we were there and begging her protection

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Below: Basilica of Our Lady, Mediatrix of Grace, which has quickly risen next to the now famous Lipa Carmel.

of Our Lord...and the Human-Divine Person is living in Heaven and in tabernacles and He comes to me in Communion!

Saint Juliana Falconieri was unable to receive Communion before she died because of her illness so she asked to have the Host placed on her breast. There It disappeared, leaving an imprint on the saint's body... showing how much Our Lord desires to be united to us in His Humanity.

Saint Imelda, as a child, had not made her First Communion and wanted to receive Communion very, very much. The Host flew from the hand of the priest to the child's mouth, whereupon the saint collapsed in the church. Relatives ran forward...and found that the little seraph had just died.

Then, too, we are reminded that the children of Fatima received Communion from an angel, and at Fatima one somehow hears over the Cova da Iria: "The Host you adore is a God-Man... because at this spot there appeared His Actual Mother."

We Fail in Opposite Way

When Our Lord was with the apostles on the stormy sea, He went to sleep. When the frightened disciples awakened Him, He calmed the sea. At first, realizing that He needed His sleep, the apostles did not want to disturb Him. They were far more aware of His humanity than of His Divinity. And He reminded them: "O ye of little faith!"

Today, do we not fail in the opposite direction by not realizing that He has humanity...that He longs to be united to us...that He lives in the tabernacle having imprisoned Himself there out of love for us even as He became man for love of us...taking the prison of human form and nature?

So we must increase our devotion to the Blessed Mother. Her devotion brings and fortifies our faith. Her appearances seem to be His voice echoing across the world...to all the nations and cities where He rests neglected in the tabernacles..."O ye of little faith."

Is it any wonder that the perfect act of reparation, and the only specific act of reparation which She asked at Fatima, is fifteen minutes of meditation on the mysteries of the Incarnation and reception of Holy Communion?

JUST ONE VOTE

(Continued from page six)

ELECTION PROCLAIMED AT FATIMA...an election for peace, through the conversion of Russia...

Our Lady has promised.

What to Do

One layman contributed the initial funds to begin this final *March of Pledges*. He gave $1,000 for advertising, purchased 100,000 pledges, and bought the first twelve copies of the Pilgrim Virgin to be sent from Portugal for those who obtain the most pledges each month. A lady in Washington, D.C., who also prefers to be anonymous, sent $100. A few others have sent other contributions... asking simply that it be used in the way it would do most good.

As these offerings increase, we shall make this March of Pledges known in every conceivable way. **SOUL** magazine was founded primarily to implement this Blue Army march against the Atheist's march of godlessness still sweeping the earth.

Whether we shall win *before* there is more war is the great question. Indeed, this is the great incentive Our Lady has given us...because She threatens the world with conquest by Atheism from Russia, persecution of the good, terrible suffering, if her requests are not met in time to prevent them.

All we can do is our best. The thing we must *not* do is stay at home, doing nothing, and thinking that it is *up to the other fellow.* For we will regret it for all eternity if there is another war...in which our loved ones are slaughtered and three fourths of mankind wiped out...and Our Lady says to us:

"I might have won...had just one more pledge been signed."

Let Us Pray

"Oh, dear Blessed Mother, who didst come at Fatima to warn us and to predict World War should your requests be ignored, forgive me for not already having done all in my power to speed your victory! Forgive me for not having persuaded more people... according to my abilities and opportunities and means...to consecrate themselves to your Immaculate Heart, your conditions for the victory of Your Son!

"I will begin now, dearest Mother. I will do at least something *every day! I will try to win one of the little statues of you which your Institute is offering as a token of outstanding service on your side of the battle for peace...and, if I win...I will cherish it as a token of special affection and approval from your Immaculate Heart.*

"Help me, dear Mother! Inspire me. Tell me what I should do, and smooth my path so that I may win many to sign your ballot for peace, the simple ballot of dedication and daily Rosary, Never let it come to pass, O Beloved Mother and Queen, that your cause might be lost by my failure to get the last vote!"

WHAT I SAW AT LIPA

(Continued from page nine)

on our air trip to America, the last five beads of the golden rosary in her right hand *began to move back and forth.*

When I arrived in America I went to see my good friend, the Most Reverend George J. Caruana, formerly Apostolic Delegate to the Antilles, and there I met Mrs. Marie Hood...also a friend of the Archbishop...who asked me to give this account for **SOUL** magazine, which I did in the presence of the Archbishop. Perhaps many wonder why Our Lady so honored the Phillipines...but perhaps few know how truly we have seen her awful threats, made at Fatima, realized in our country.

Lipa...which is not very large by American standards, lost 30,000 of its citizens at the hands of the Japanese during this past war and during the Japanese occupation.

In my home city (Rizal City), about two hours drive from Lipa City, during the occupation the Japanese took over the hospital and shot and bayonetted all the doctors, and were about to begin on the nurses. Being as methodical as they were cruel, they put off attacking the nurses until they could locate my husband...who was a doctor and who had hidden in peasant garb near the gate of the city. (He had been unable to pass the sentry and flee to the hills).

Several days passed. The Americans came. My husband had not been caught and the nurses were spared. I am an American...born in Baltimore, Md., but I passed myself for Spanish during the Japanese occupation because had they known I was American I would have been summarily shot. Today I am working ardently with my husband for the reconstruction of the hospital in Rizal City.

It will be many, many years...and many generations...before our people forget all the horror they have seen. They know, because God has been good enough to send His Mother to remind them, that only prayer and penance can avert further suffering. If there is another war...with Communist strength gathering in China...the Phillipines might once again see the horror and carnage which will always live for us.

We pray that all the world...all thinking, devout Catholics, at least!...will understand the great urgency of Our Lady's message which carries hope... the *only* hope...of world peace.